

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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----- 084569

P R 19:25Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CH, US

SUBJECT- MEETING WITH TRADE ON TCK PROBLEM

1. WILLIAM J. ADAMS, REPRESENTATIVE OF COOK INDUSTRIES, WILL BE IN PEKING SHORTLY TO DISCUSS RESUMPTION OF WHEAT SHIPMENTS TO THE PRC WITH CEROILFOOD. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, HE ASKED THAT WE PROVIDE HIM WITH GENERAL BRIEFING THROUGH USLO ON USDA MEETING TO BE HELD JUNE 19 TO DISCUSS NEW INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR TCK WITH REPRESENTATIVES - GRAIN TRADE. HE WILL CALL AT USLO AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN PEKING. REQUEST YOU INFORM HIM OF FOLLOWING.

2. A MEETING CHAIRED BY USDA ASSISTANT SECRETARY YEUTTER WAS HELD JUNE 19 FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF FIRMS INVOLVED IN GRAIN TRADE AND INTERESTED IN RESULTS OF USDA/COMMERCIAL TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRC THIS MAY. PURPOSE WAS TO PROVIDE TRADE WITH OPPORTUNITY TO DEBRIEF USDA TEAM MEMBERS AND EXPLAIN NEW PROCEDURES FOR PHYTOSANITARY IN-

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SPECTION WHICH USDA PLANS TO INSTITUTE TO MEET CHINESE REQUIREMENTS. MEETING HEARD REPORTS FROM NOVOTNY, LIEBE AND DARLING.

3. NOVOTNY REPORTED THAT THE OUTCOME OF MEETINGS IN PEKING AND SHANGHAI WAS (1) USDA ACKNOWLEDGES AND RESPECTS PRC STATEMENT THAT TCK NOT CURRENTLY FOUND IN CHINA AND THAT CHINESE CONCERN OVER INTRODUCTION OF THIS DISEASE ORGANISM

IS NOT UNJUSTIFIED; (2) PRC AUTHORITIES HAVE SHOWN SIGNIFICANT MEASURE OF TOLERANCE IN THEIR TREATMENT OF TCK PROBLEM OVER PAST YEAR, ADMITTING SOME 28 OR 30 VESSELS WHICH THEY KNEW TO CONTAIN TCK INFESTED WHEAT DESPITE THE FACT THAT THEIR TREATMENT WAS NOT WHOLLY EFFECTIVE IN ELIMINATING DANGER OF TCK INTRODUCTION INTO CHINA. THE CHINESE, IF SATISFIED THAT U.S. SIDE IS DOING ALL IT CAN, WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE SOMEWHAT TOLERANT; (3) SEVERAL THINGS CAN BE DONE ON THE U.S. SIDE BY THE INDUSTRY AND USDA TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF REJECTION BY THE CHINESE AND IT IS INCUMBENT ON THE U.S. NOW TO TAKE SERIOUS MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT TCK DOES NOT CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN WHEAT SHIPMENTS TO CHINA.

4. LIEBE STATED THAT AMS HAD ADOPTED PROCEDURE FOR MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF WHEAT FOR TCK ON BASIS OF PROCEDURES DEVELOPED BY AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CEREAL CHEMISTS, DR. HOFFMAN AND OTHERS. A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LICENSE INSPECTORS AND OTHERS FROM SEVEN STATES WOULD SHORTLY BE IN OPERATION IN COOPERATION WITH OREGON STATE UNIV. THIS TRAINING WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDUSTRY. AMS IS SURVEYING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST TO IDENTIFY AREAS IN WHICH TCK SMUT OCCURS. AMS WILL OFFER INSPECTION OF WHEAT TO THE INDUSTRY IN THE INTERIOR MARKET OF THE U.S. PRIOR TO SHIPMENT TO EXPORT MARKETS. INSPECTION AT THE PORT WILL BE HANDLED BY APHIS ON BASIS OF SAMPLES PROVIDED BY AMS, DRAWN FROM SHIPS AT TIME OF LOADING.

5. DARLING OUTLINED RESPONSIBILITY OF APHIS FOR ISSUANCE OF PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF IMPORTING COUNTRY. THIS IS NOT A U.S. REQUIREMENT
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BUT A SERVICE PROVIDED TO THE TRADE. THE U.S. IS A PARTY TO THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION AND USES A CERTIFICATE MODELLED AFTER THE INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE. THE CERTIFICATE STATES THAT THE SHIPMENT CONFORMS TO THE PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE IMPORTING COUNTRY. THE PRC CURRENTLY REQUIRES IN ITS CONTRACTS WITH FOREIGN BUYERS THAT WHEAT BE FREE OF TCK AND

FIVE INSECTS. NORMALLY, NO MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION S REQUIRED, BUT WHEN THE RECEIVING COUNTRY'S PROCEDURES CALL FOR ONE, IT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN. APHIS NOW PLANS TO INTENSIFY ITS INSPECTION PROCEDURES ON THE BASIS OF THE STANDARDS DEVELOPED BY AMS AND ARS (WHICH ARE CLOSE TO THE PRC PROCEDURES OBSERVED IN SHANGHAI), AND WILL MAKE THESE PROCEDURES UNIFORM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. THE RELIABILITY OF THE INSPECTION PROCEDURE WILL BE

IGNIFICANTLY INCREASED. THE CERTIFICATE WILL STATE "NO EVIDENCE WAS FOUND OF TCK". FIVE QUALIFIED PLANT PATHOLOGISTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRAINED IN THE NEW PROCEDURES AT BELTSVILLE. INSPECTION AT THE PORT WILL BE AVAILABLE BY JULY 1 RPT 1 AT NEW ORLEANS, AND WILL BE EXTENDED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS JUSTIFIED BY THE VOLUME OF THE WHEAT TRADE WITH CHINA THROUGH PARTICULAR PORTS. WHERE THERE IS NO QUALIFIED INSPECTOR AT THE PORT, SAMPLES WILL BE EXAMINED ELSEWHERE AND THE RESULTS TELEPHONED TO THE LOCAL INSPECTOR, WHO WILL THEN ISSUE A CERTIFICATE. INSPECTION CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN THREE TO FOUR HOURS AFTER RECEIPT OF A SAMPLE. SHIPPER COULD ARRANGE COURIER TO EXPEDITE RECEIPT. DARLING GAVE DETAILED OUTLINE OF INSPECTION PROCEDURES AND EQUIPMENT USED IN THEM, AND SAID THAT WRITTEN OUTLINE OF THESE COULD BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO WERE INTERESTED, ON REQUEST.

6. LIEBE RAISED ADDITIONAL POINT OF POSSIBLE CONCERN TO CHINESE. WHEAT SHIPMENTS FROM U.S. CHARACTERISTICALLY DUSTIER ON TOP LAYER THAN SHIPMENTS FROM OTHER SUPPLIERS. CHINESE CONCERNED ABOUT ALL CLASSES OF CONTAMINANTS. SHIPPERS MIGHT CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO REDUCE SURFACE DUST FROM SHIPMENTS GOING TO CHINA. THIS MIGHT ENGENDER SOMEWHAT MORE RELAXED ATTITUDE ON PART OF PRC, AS WELL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS REDUCE POSSIBILITY THAT PRC QUARANTINE SERVICE SAMPLING, WHICH DONE FROM SURFACE OF SHIPMENT, WOULD FIND SO MUCH CONTAMINATION OF WHEAT. KISSINGER

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